GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1075
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2005
DAM AND BRIDGES IN FOREST AREA OF MAHARASHTRA
Pingle Shri Devidas Anandrao

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the Government of Maharashtra for granting "No Objection Certificate" for the construction of dams and bridges in the forest areas and roads that pass through the said area;

(b) if so, the number of such proposals received during the last three years and the current year and the number of proposals out of them which have been approved so far; and

(c) the time by which the rest of the proposals are likely to be approved?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) The Central Government has received proposals for grant of forestry clearance under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for construction of dams, roads and bridges in the forest areas in Maharashtra.

(b) During the last three years and current year, 3 proposals for construction of dams were received. Out of these, 2 proposals have been approved. During the same period, 20 proposals out of a total of 26 proposals received for construction of roads were approved. In respect of remaining 6, 1 proposal has been rejected on merit and 5 proposals have been returned to the State Government for want of complete information. For construction of bridge, only 1 proposal was received which has been approved. No proposal for construction of roads and bridges is pending with the Central Government.

(c) Each proposal received from the State Government is examined on its merit and as per the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. As per Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003, a time limit of 60 days has been fixed for Central Government for taking a decision on the complete proposal received from the State.